

LYNCHBURG CITY COUNCIL

Agenda Item Summary

MEETING DATE: **October 29, 2002**

AGENDA ITEM NO.: **5**

CONSENT: **X**

REGULAR:

CLOSED SESSION:
(Confidential)

ACTION: **X**

INFORMATION:

ITEM TITLE: **Welfare To Work Grant (WTW)**

RECOMMENDATION: Appropriate \$130,175, fully reimbursable, to fund the continuation of the Welfare to Work Grant through a regional WorkNet Program.

SUMMARY: The WorkNet Program, funded through the Welfare to Work Grant, promotes career development for participants who are Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) clients, potential TANF clients, or non-custodial parents. The participants' skills and strengths are evaluated, individual career development plans are created and strategies are developed to implement a plan to assist participants in reaching their career goals.

During the past one and a half years, the WorkNet Program has provided services to Lynchburg clients. Beginning November 1, 2002 the program will be regionalized to serve clients in Campbell and Bedford Counties, and Bedford City through a multi-locality partnership. This partnership will maximize the available regional resources of the Welfare To Work Grant in order to achieve the WorkNet Program goals for more clients than could be accomplished by the localities individually.

The WorkNet Program will be resourced with three (3) full-time and two (2) part-time Employment Services Workers and one (1) full-time Aide III. Where practicable, these positions will be filled with qualified Lynchburg Division of Social Services employees whose jobs may be eliminated as a consequence of State Budget reductions.

The total funding available through the Welfare to Work (WTW) Grant for the regional partnership is \$309,150, with \$178,975 presently included in the FY 2003 Budget. The additional \$130,175 appropriation requested creates a pool of financial resources estimated to cover program costs through the first quarter of FY 2004. However, the funds may be used prior to that date if there are a large number of clients served. Upon exhaustion of these funds, the regional program will end.

It is anticipated that Lynchburg's portion of WTW funding will be exhausted by January 2003. Transitioning to a regional program will provide the opportunity to continue to serve Lynchburg clients at a reduced level. In the meantime, Lynchburg has requested supplemental WTW funding that, if awarded, will enable the program to continue at the current level until the federal legislation sunsets in June 2004.

PRIOR ACTION(S): None

FISCAL IMPACT: No local cost, 100% Federal reimbursement from the Region 2000 Regional Commission

CONTACT(S):

| | | |
|----------------|------------------------|--|
| Mark Johnson | 847-1776 Extension 243 | Director of Social Services |
| Diana C. Trent | 847-1776 Extension 249 | Director of Human Services |
| Tamara Rosser | 847-1551 Extension 229 | Human Services Department Council Report Coordinator |

ATTACHMENT(S): Resolution
Award Letter

REVIEWED BY: lkp

Resolution

BE IT RESOVLED That \$130,175 is appropriated to the General Fund with full reimbursement from the Region 2000 Regional Commission for the continuation of the Welfare to Work Grant.

Introduced:

Adopted:

Certified:

Clerk of Council

213L

Regional Commission

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September 13, 2002

At the September 10, 2002 Workforce Investment Board Meeting, the following items were approved for the Lynchburg Welfare to Work Program:

\$171,695 was reallocated to Lynchburg to operate the Bedford County and City Program;
\$71,537 was reallocated to Lynchburg to operate the Campbell County Program;
\$19,121 of Campbell County's original allocation was transferred to Lynchburg for use in the Lynchburg program; and
\$46,797 of Lynchburg's allocation was approved for use.

Please let me know if you need any additional information,



C.W. Gillespie
Executive Director
Region 2000 Regional Commission